

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Yes, as action required.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know who conducted it and at whose instance action was taken?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—The whole question was the result of the audit made. When the audit was made it was not certain whether there was any defalcation at all. It was only on enquiry that this matter of defalcation was brought to light.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know who is the officer who found out this?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—The audit staff in the Comptroller's office.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Is it the audit staff of the Principal of the College who brought it to the notice of the Government?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—With your leave, Sir, I shall make a statement on this subject. The audit staff made a report as usual signifying the existence of certain irregularities. These were read by the clerks. They never showed it the light of day for months together. Reminders were sent and finally almost providentially the custodian, the Principal, happened to see one of these papers, one of the latter reminders, and discovered that the staff had continually suppressed all the communications and the suspicion of defalcation came into his notice. The audit had done what it had to do. It made a report. The reminders never reached the Principal.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Does not the Principal read the annual audit report?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The observations on the audit never reached the Principal. That was his first complaint.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Is not the Principal expected to go through the audit report?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Yes. But these papers were kept by the clerks in the office. I admit that it is a mistake on the part of the Principal also. All these show that there was some indication of guilt and the order was passed on that and not upon a mere suspicion.

Library grant—The Chalakkudi Cosmopolitan Reading Club.

222. Mr. A. V. Moothedan.—Will the Government be pleased to state,—

(a) has the Government received an application for Library grant from the Chakkudi Cosmopolitan Reading Club;

(b) if so, what action has been taken on it?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) It was ordered that grant cannot be given this year for want of funds and that the question will be considered along with the 1111 budget.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan.—As this matter has been brought to the notice of the Government yesterday, I don't wish to put supplementary questions.

Typists—superannuation of.

223. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the number of typists in the state service who have put in 25 or more years of service;

(b) when will the persons referred to in (a) be superannuated?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—(a) & (b) A statement containing the available information is appended. (*Vide Appendix V.*)

Prisoners—Central Jail.

224. Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) the number of convicts in the Central Jail giving separately

(a) life convicts;

(b) undergoing rigorous imprisonment;

(c) undergoing simple imprisonment for

(i) default of money payments;

(ii) other offences;

(d) under-trial prisoners;

(2) how many under each class can read and write

(a) Malayalam;

(b) English;

(3) for how many hours per day are the prisoners under (a) and (b) supra, worked;